

REMARKS

Claims 1-49 were pending in the present application. In the above amendments, claim 38 has been amended, and claim 37 has been canceled without prejudice.

In the Office Action mailed January 26, 2004, the Examiner rejected claim 37 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gurantz et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,550,869 in view of Kowalski et al., WO 99/39452.

Claims 1-36 and 39-49 were allowed.

Claim 38 was objected to as being dependent from a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants respectfully respond to this Office Action.

Claim 38 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 37, which has been canceled. Therefore, claim 38 is now in condition for allowance.

REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all pending claims in the application are patentable. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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